

## CLAIMS

1. A method for automatically identifying a criterion comprising:  
providing a description;  
identifying a passage of the description with a predefined trigger phrase;  
5 determining whether the passage includes a type of criterion; and  
identifying a criterion within the passage as being the same type of criterion  
associated with the trigger phrase.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the trigger phrase is a valid, job requirements  
trigger phrase.
- 10 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the description is a job description.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the type of criterion is a required criterion.
5. The method of claim 1, further comprising storing a position of the trigger  
phrase.
6. The method of claim 1, further comprising storing a position of the criterion.
- 15 7. The method of claim 1, wherein identifying the passage uses a predefined rule  
that defines a passage.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the passage includes a clause that contains a  
trigger phrase.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the passage begins with a paragraph that starts  
20 with the trigger phrase, and is followed approximately immediately by a colon, and ends  
with the end of the sentence.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the passage begins with a paragraph that starts with the trigger phrase, and is followed approximately immediately by a hyphen, and ends with the end of the sentence.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein the passage begins with a paragraph that starts  
5 with the trigger phrase and is followed approximately immediately by a new line, and ends with the end of the sentence.
12. A system for automatically identifying a criterion, comprising:  
a processor configured to provide a description; identify a passage of the description with a predefined trigger phrase; determine whether the passage includes a  
10 type of criterion; and identify a criterion within the passage as being the same type of criterion associated with the trigger phrase; and  
a memory coupled with the processor, the memory being configured to provide the processor with instructions.
13. A computer program product for automatically identifying a criterion, the  
15 computer program product being embodied in a computer readable medium and comprising computer instructions for:  
providing a description;  
identifying a passage of the description with a predefined trigger phrase;  
determining whether the passage includes a type of criterion; and  
20 identifying a criterion within the passage as being the same type of criterion associated with the trigger phrase.